



United States Department of the Interior

KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

P.O. Box 2139
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In reply refer to:

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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REQUEST FOR SCENIC RAFTING GUIDE PROSPECTUS

The Prospectus and Request for Proposal to Conduct Commercial Guided Rafting Services for the upper Kenai River within the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge will be available for review and submission of proposals. Specifically, the upper Kenai River within the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge has had a limited number of scenic rafting service permits available since 1998. This solicitation for proposals represents a conversion to a competitively awarded permit process consistent with published commercial visitor service regulations. Approximately fifteen permits will be awarded.

On August 15, 2007, prospectuses will be available at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters and interested applicants should obtain a prospectus. Prospective

permittees must submit a proposal by November 1, 2007. Selection of successful applicants will be completed by February 14, 2008, for a five year permit period beginning May 1, 2008.

Requests for a prospectus can be sent to the Refuge Manager, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge; P.O. Box 2139; Soldotna, Alaska 99669 or by email at kenai@fws.gov. Please call Rick Johnston at (907) 262-7021 with any questions regarding the prospectus or visitor services programs.

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 93-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System which encompasses more than 520 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 66 national fish hatcheries, 64 fish and wildlife management assistance offices, 64 Fishery Resource Offices, and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.